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MEAT PRODUCTION DURING 1951

Meat production in the principal livestock countries of the world, exclusive of the Far East, is estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations at about 73.5 billion pounds during 1951. This is believed to be a new record high and exceeds the 1934-38 average by almost 8 percent. The increase in meat production in 1951 as compared to 1950 was due to a 7 percent increase in the output of pork which more than offset slight declines in the production of beef and lamb and mutton.

MEAT 1/: Summary of world production, 1951, with comparisons

Continent or area	Average		Preliminary		Increase (+) or decrease (-)	
	1934-38	1950	1951	1951	1951	1951
				1934-38	1950	1951
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent
North America <u>2</u> /	18,600	25,400	25,100	+35	- 1	- 1
Europe	28,800	<u>3</u> / 24,300	<u>3</u> / 25,300	- 7	+ 4	+ 4
Soviet Union	<u>4</u> / 7,140	<u>5</u> /	<u>5</u> /	--	--	--
Middle East <u>6</u> /	<u>7</u> / 1,100	<u>5</u> /	<u>5</u> /	--	--	--
South America	8,300	10,100	9,900	+20	- 2	- 2
Union of South Africa	671	937	868	+29	- 7	- 7
Oceania	3,200	3,500	3,300	+ 3	- 5	- 5
Total <u>8</u> /	68,000	72,400	73,600	+ 8	+ 2	+ 2

1/ Carcass meat--excludes offal, lard, rabbit and poultry meat. 2/ Includes United States, Canada, Mexico and Cuba. 3/ Not strictly comparable with pre-war, due to territorial changes. 4/ Pre-war territory. 5/ Estimates included in the total. 6/ Includes Egypt, Turkey, Iraq and Iran. 7/ Revised. 8/ Total includes 41 countries, which in 1938 produced 66.3 billion pounds of meat out of an estimated total 70 billion pounds for 67 countries, excluding China.

The upward trend in meat production reflected the general increase in livestock numbers in most countries. The strong demand for meat with consequently favorable prices during the past few years encouraged livestock producers to expand breeding and feeding programs. The increased hog numbers have resulted in considerably higher pork production. Increased cattle and sheep numbers have not resulted in increased output of beef and lamb and mutton due to the holding back from slaughter of cattle and sheep in some countries because of the desire to build up breeding herds and because of high wool prices. In other countries, especially Argentine, Mexico and Australia, beef production has been hindered by prolonged drought.

Because of the larger livestock populations in most countries the outlook appears favorable for continued high levels of meat production in 1952.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

MEAT 1/: Preliminary estimate of production of beef and veal, pork, mutton and lamb, and total meat in specified countries in 1951, with comparisons

Country	Beef and Veal			Pork (excluding lard)			Mutton and Lamb			Total 2/	
	Average : 1934-38	1950	1951	Average : 1934-38	1950	1951	Average : 1934-38	1950	1951	1950	1951
	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds
NORTH AMERICA											
Canada 3/.....	735	916	823	621	964	1,006	61	36	36	1,417	1,865
Mexico.....	492	700	615	167	258	235	14	19	19	698	895
United States 2/.....	7,974	10,768	9,904	7,337	10,714	11,483	871	597	522	16,182	21,909
Cuba 4/.....	269	375	395	38	35	35	2	2	2	309	432
EUROPE											
Austria 5/.....	231	180	210	359	335	345	9	4	4	617	570
Belgium.....	304	287	311	367	376	324	7	6	3	693	687
Bulgaria 6/.....	105	-	-	134	-	-	88	-	-	337	-
Czechoslovakia 7/.....	411	-	-	600	-	-	6	-	-	1,032	-
Denmark 3/8/.....	361	345	425	725	754	839	8	4	3	1,105	1,282
Finland 2/.....	115	97	104	122	127	122	10	13	12	256	248
France.....	2,200	2,160	2,138	1,494	1,742	1,609	222	243	210	4,015	4,288
Germany-Western 6/.....	1,550	1,370	1,470	2,500	2,180	2,600	45	45	33	4,150	3,680
Greece 10/.....	32	20	23	40	37	39	136	80	80	208	137
Hungary.....	155	-	-	450	-	-	22	-	-	635	-
Ireland.....	103	133	178	196	148	127	37	34	32	336	337
Italy.....	705	665	640	1,111	515	495	108	105	100	1,490	1,390
Netherlands.....	300	310	388	514	524	608	20	14	14	12/ 851	887
Norway 13/.....	94	102	119	89	102	76	32	33	35	223	238
Poland 14/.....	755	-	-	1,655	-	-	30	-	-	2,450	-
Portugal.....	57	68	62	189	222	226	44	54	48	290	338
Rumania.....	245	-	-	375	-	-	110	-	-	735	-
Sweden 3/.....	292	252	292	327	374	365	8	6	5	649	691
Switzerland.....	217	188	196	190	200	196	4	4	4	419	407
United Kingdom 10/.....	1,393	1,420	1,460	1,012	791	825	447	334	295	2,852	2,580
Yugoslavia.....	243	-	-	476	-	-	147	-	-	888	-
Soviet Union 14/15/.....	2,855	-	-	3,307	-	-	978	-	-	7,140	-
SOUTH AMERICA											
Argentina.....	3,645	4,395	4,380	16/ 225	16/ 310	16/ 255	370	320	320	4,240	4,955
Brazil 16/.....	1,821	2,268	2,250	369	528	550	15	42	43	2,214	2,870
Chile.....	235	250	268	39	56	58	72	81	65	349	394
Paraguay.....	167	193	170	-	-	-	-	-	-	167	170
Uruguay.....	615	657	650	30	31	25	140	154	110	785	785
AFRICA											
Union of South Africa.....	421	670	600	64	107	103	186	160	165	671	868
OCEANIA											
Australia 10/.....	1,275	1,392	1,431	13/ 198	189	189	13/ 714	668	592	13/ 2,187	2,212
New Zealand 17/.....	365	416	405	106	87	90	553	743	615	1,024	1,110

1/ Carcass meat basis - excludes edible offal and lard. 2/ Includes other meat, i.e. goat and horse meat. Excludes offal, rabbit and poultry meat.
3/ Averages for years 1935-39. 4/ Averages for years 1936-40. 5/ Averages for years 1933-37. 6/ Averages for years 1935-38. 7/ Year 1936 for prewar.
8/ Includes carcass meat equivalent of live animal exports. 9/ Includes goat meat. 10/ Averages for years 1936-38. 11/ Production data for prewar
and postwar years are not on a comparable basis and are subject to revision. 12/ Revised. 13/ Year beginning July 1. 14/ Year 1938 for prewar.
15/ Prewar territory. 16/ Excludes farm production. 17/ Year beginning July 1 for prewar; year ending September 30 for years 1950 and 1951.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of the United States Foreign Service officers, and other information. Data for countries having changed boundaries relate to present territory, unless otherwise noted.

